

TO: TALK w/ADE Members

FROM: Jeannette Zemeida
Arizona Department of Education
Exceptional Student Services

DATE: October 15, 2002

SUBJECT: Minutes from Meeting on September 23, 2002

TALK w/ADE MEETING MINUTES

❖ **Welcome/Attendance**

- Steve Mishlove--Arizona Department of Education/Exceptional Student Services (ADE/ESS); Jeannette Zemeida--ADE/ESS; Susan Benjamin (for Laura Bistrow), Paradise Valley Unified School District; Gail Bornfield, Amphitheater Unified School District; Diane Bruening, Chandler Unified School District; Karen Davis, PPEP TEC Charter High School; Catherine Hitchings, Higley Unified School District; Pamela Loper, Pendergast Elem. School District; Lorrane McPherson, Tucson Unified School District; Sue Tillis – Sunnyside Unified School District; Joe Zello – Mesa Public Schools

❖ **ADE Update**

- Excess Cost for Education Grant
 - Due Sept. 30, 2002
 - Application is on-line
 - Applicants can apply for up to \$100,000
- Arizona Educational Employment Board
 - Dale Brown's e-mail addresses: kansasbrown@yahoo.com or daleb@idir.net
- Out-of-Level Testing as it pertains to "No Child Left Behind"
 - Testing will remain the same for the current school year
 - A policy regarding testing for next year should be out by February
 - Will no longer be referred to as "out-of-level" testing
 - Contents of tests will need to be revised to match the age of the child taking the test
- Volunteers for Testing Input Workgroup
 - Karen Davis, Pamela Loper, Lorrane McPherson, Diane Bruening, Sue Tillis and Joe Zello
- OSEP wants input on alternatives to the discrepancy model to identify kids with learning disabilities
 - Volunteers: Lorrane McPherson, Diane Bruening, Joe Zello, Gail Bornfield and a representative from Paradise Valley Unified School District
- ESS has been awarded a General Supervision Grant
 - A one-time grant amount of \$257,000
 - ESS looking at establishing a web-based system with the Certification Unit
 - Would give ESS much better data regarding special education teachers
- Protocol for placement in residential facilities
 - According to Behavioral Health Services there is \$600,000 still available for non-Title 19 residential placement

- Steve provided a draft of the protocols for a group discussion
- Consent Decree
 - ESS out from under special monitoring – there was no recommendation for an extension of the consent decree
 - The Review and Compensation Committee has eight claims to finish reviewing
- Annual Data Focus Group
 - Lorrane reported on the number of instructional hours it took to complete
 - 2,187 hours – 2 hours per teacher (1,000 hrs); 35 people to complete (not including teachers)
 - We have a “disproportionality” focus group – having data by school most helpful
 - Sue wanted to know “Are there areas districts are still confused over regarding interpretation of questions” – suggested sending out question to schools
 - Technical assistance document suggested
- ESS will attempt to put together trainings for people on Emergency Certificates once a director is hired to manage the SIG full-time
- Director’s Institute
 - Principal’s Academy will be included, Oct. 17, 2002
- Transition Conference, Sept. 18-20, 2002 was well attended
- Transition Evaluation Training
 - 75 districts/charters maximum
 - Oct. 28-30, 2002
- Counseling document is available
 - Listed at: <http://www.ade.az.gov/ess/Aztas/CounselingRevised.pdf>
 - Four trainings to take place; 2, Phoenix; 1, Tucson; 1, Flagstaff
- Integrated Services Model
 - Nine districts/charters selected for pilot project
- Steve received brochure regarding IEP facilitation training
 - Being conducted by former OSEP contact
 - Will send information to Talk w/ADE members before next meeting
- Cost Study
 - Three firms submitted bids
 - Fieldwork should begin in January or February

❖ OPEN DISCUSSION

- Ban on Out-of-Level Assessment
 - Discussion concerning the possibility that the State Board was considering mandating that 95% of students must take AIMS and Stanford 9 on-level; concerns expressed concerning special education students
- Mediation Training
 - October 10, 2002
- Procedural Safeguards
 - Missouri has them on videotape in American Sign Language
 - Free of charge
 - Missouri Dept. of Education website: <http://services.dese.state.mo.us/>
 - Could ADE create a videotape with speaking, closed-captioned and American Sign Language?

- Child Find Pre-Monitoring Data Collection
 - Should a school district send a mailing to every household in their district? Others in the group said, no, just send home procedures with the children, through the local newspaper, or school newsletter
- Annual Data Collection, Parent Survey
 - Discussion regarding question concerning parents being an “active participant” in IEP meetings
- IEE Survey
 - Sue asked that everyone send their surveys back; was determined that surveys were probably sent back to Mary Mitchell, ADE/ESS.

❖ **NEXT MEETING**

- The October 21, 2002 meeting was cancelled. The next meeting will be held November 18, 2002, Paradise Valley Unified School District, IMC Building, Ivory Room, 15002 N. 32nd St., Phoenix, 9 am –12 noon.